<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An interface circuit capable of allowing transmission of data from a detachable card-type memory, which requires access by sectors, to an electronic device, <u>said interface circuit</u> comprising:

a reading unit that reads document image data <u>for</u> ~~from~~ the electronic device <u>including</u> at least one of a printer, a copying machine, and a facsimile ~~for~~ <u>from</u> a plurality of sectors ~~from~~ <u>within</u> the card-type memory;

a buffer in the reading unit that stores the image data read and has a capacity to store data for ~~a~~ <u>the</u> plurality of sectors;

a receiver that receives from the electronic device a read-access control command for the image data stored in the buffer;

a data checker that decides whether the image data corresponding to the read-access control command exists among the data stored in the buffer; and

a transmitter that transmits the image data from the buffer to the electronic device when the data checker decides that data corresponding to the read-access control command exists among the data stored in the buffer.

Claim 2 (Original): The interface circuit according to claim 1, further comprising a data deleter that deletes data in the buffer, wherein

if the data checker decides that data corresponding to the read-access control command does not exist among the data stored in the buffer, the data deleter deletes from the buffer data that was sent by the transmitter to the electronic device at an oldest period, the reading unit reads from the card-type memory data corresponding to the read-access control command and stores the data read into the buffer, and the transmitter transmits to the

electronic device data corresponding to the read-access control command from among the

data stored in the buffer.

Claim 3 (Original): The interface circuit according to claim 1, wherein the card-type

memory is a secure digital card.

Claim 4 (Original): The interface circuit according to claim 1, wherein the buffer has

a capacity to store data for at least two sectors.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): An application specific integrated circuit having at

least one application function from among an image processing function, an image

input/output function, and a data communication function, the application functions sharing

at least one of a memory and a hard disk as common resources, the application specific

integrated circuit comprising:

an interface circuit capable of allowing transmission of data from a detachable card-

type memory, which requires access by sectors, to an electronic device, the interface circuit

including

a reading unit that reads image data for ~~from~~ the electronic device including at least

one of a printer, a copying machine, and a facsimile ~~for~~ from a plurality of sectors ~~from~~

within the card-type memory;

a buffer in the reading unit that stores the image data read and has a capacity to store

data for ~~a~~ the plurality of sectors;

a receiver that receives from the electronic device a read-access control command for

data stored in the buffer;

a data checker that decides whether the image data corresponding to the read-access

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control command exists among the data stored in the buffer; and

a transmitter that transmits the image data from the buffer to the electronic device

when the data checker decides that data corresponding to the read-access control command

exists among the data stored in the buffer.

Claim 6 (Original): The application specific integrated circuit according to claim 5,

wherein the interface circuit further includes a data deleter that deletes data in the buffer, and

if the data checker decides that data corresponding to the read-access control

command does not exist among the data stored in the buffer, the data deleter deletes from the

buffer data that was sent by the transmitter to the electronic device at an oldest period, the

reading unit reads from the card-type memory data corresponding to the read-access control

command and stores the data read into the buffer, and the transmitter transmits to the

electronic device data corresponding to the read-access control command from among the

data stored in the buffer.

Claim 7 (Original): The application specific integrated circuit according to claim 5,

wherein the card-type memory is a secure digital card.

Claim 8 (Original): The application specific integrated circuit according to claim 5,

wherein the buffer has a capacity to store data for at least two sectors.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus having at least one

application function among an image processing function, an image input/output function,

and a data communication function, the image forming apparatus comprising:

an application specific integrated circuit in which the application functions can share

at least one of a memory and a hard disk as common resources, the application specific

integrated circuit including an interface circuit capable of allowing transmission of data from

a detachable card-type memory, which requires access by sectors, to an electronic device, the

interface circuit including

a reading unit that reads image data for ~~from~~ the electronic device including at least

one of a printer, a copying machine, and a facsimile ~~for~~ from a plurality of sectors ~~from~~

within the card-type memory;

a buffer in the reading unit that stores the image data read and has a capacity to store

data for ~~a~~ the plurality of sectors;

a receiver that receives from the electronic device a read-access control command for

data stored in the buffer;

a data checker that decides whether the image data corresponding to the read-access

control command exists among the data stored in the buffer; and

a transmitter that transmits the image data from the buffer to the electronic device

when the data checker decides that data corresponding to the read-access control command

exists among the data stored in the buffer.

Claim 10 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the

interface circuit further includes a data deleter that deletes data in the buffer, and

if the data checker decides that data corresponding to the read-access control

command does not exist among the data stored in the buffer, the data deleter deletes from the

buffer data that was sent by the transmitter to the electronic device at an oldest period, the

reading unit reads from the card-type memory data corresponding to the read-access control

command and stores the data read into the buffer, and the transmitter transmits to the

electronic device data corresponding to the read-access control command from among the

data stored in the buffer.

Claim 11 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the card-type memory is a secure digital card.

Claim 12 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the buffer has a capacity to store data for at least two sectors.

Claim 13 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 9, wherein a program stored in the card-type memory is directly executed.

Claim 14 (New): An interface circuit capable of allowing transmission of data from a card-type memory, which requires access by sectors, to an electronic device, said interface circuit comprising:

a reading unit configured to read data for the electronic device from a plurality of sectors within the card-type memory;

a buffer in the reading unit configured to store data read by the reading unit and store the data in a dedicated sector area of the buffer;

a receiver configured to receive from the electronic device a read-access control command for the data stored in the buffer;

a data checker configured to determine whether data corresponding to the read-access control command exists in the dedicated sector area of the buffer; and

a transmitter configured to transmit the data from the dedicated sector area of the buffer to the electronic device when the data checker determines that data corresponding to the read-access control command exists in the dedicated sector area of the buffer.